

CPYRGHT

A127

U R G E N T

NEW YORK--THIRD ADD DONOVAN (A122) WHICH MAY FIRST LEAD TO A45-47)
 X X X HIMSELF.

DONOVAN, WHO WAS IN THE AMERICAN GROUP WHICH MET A RUSSIAN PARTY IN THE MIDDLE OF A BRIDGE IN BERLIN TO MAKE THE PRISONER EXCHANGE, SAID POWERS' FIRST WORDS WERE "GEE, I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU."

HE SAID POWERS APPEARED TO BE "IN VERY GOOD PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CONDITION" AND THAT HE WAS SURE THE RELEASE HAD COME AS A SURPRISE TO THE U2 PILOT.

THE U2 INCIDENT WAS NEVER DISCUSSED DURING THE TRIP HOME, DONOVAN SAID, ADDING:

"OUR SOLE OBJECTIVE WAS TO MAKE A FELLOW WHO HAD SPENT 21 MONTHS IN A RUSSIAN PRISON FEEL AT HOME."

DONOVAN, WHO CALLED A NEWS CONFERENCE AT HIS BROOKLYN HOME TONIGHT AND GAVE A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXCHANGE ON THE BRIDGE EARLY YESTERDAY, WAS ASKED IF HE EXCHANGED ANY WORDS WITH SHISHKIN, WHO WAS IN THE SOVIET GROUP ON THE BRIDGE.

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"NEAR THE END," DONOVAN REPLIED, "SHISHKIN SAID HE THOUGHT I SHOULD TAKE A GREATER PART IN GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES AND SHOULD STUDY RUSSIAN."

"I TOLD HIM," DONOVAN ADDED, "THAT IN THE UNITED STATES ONLY THE OPTIMISTS STUDY RUSSIAN; THE PESSIMISTS STUDY CHINESE."

HE SAID SHISHKIN MADE NO COMMENT TO THE REMARK.

DONOVAN, WHO WAS ABEL'S COURT-APPOINTED LAWYER FOR THE RUSSIAN'S SPY TRIAL IN BROOKLYN, SAID HE SPENT A HALF HOUR WITH ABEL IN A DETENTION CELL BEFORE THEY WENT TO THE BRIDGE. THEY DISCUSSED "VARIOUS MATTERS, INCLUDING THE END OF ALMOST FIVE YEARS (OF ASSOCIATION) SINCE THE BAR ASSOCIATION GOT ME INTO THIS," HE ADDED.

DONOVAN WAS APPOINTED TO DEFEND THE RUSSIAN ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE LOCAL BAR ASSOCIATION.

HE SAID ABEL "EXPRESSED TO ME HIS GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION FOR WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS MY ABILITY AND INTEGRITY IN DEFENDING HIM."

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